

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the title at page 1, line 1, with

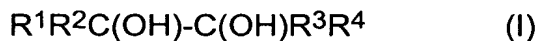
--METHOD FOR THE DIHYDROXYLATION OF  
OLEFINS USING TRANSITION METAL CATALYSTS --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the heading at page 18, line 1, with --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--

Claims 1-12 have been canceled in favor of replacement Claims 13-28.

--13. A process for the dihydroxylation of olefins using transition metal catalysts to obtain monofunctional, bifunctional, and/or polyfunctional 1,2-diols of the formula (I)



where

R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup> are each, independently of one another, hydrogen, alkyl, CN, COOH, COO-alkyl, COO-aryl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, O-alkyl, O-aryl, O-CO-aryl, O-CO-alkyl, OCOO-alkyl, N-alkyl<sub>2</sub>, NH-alkyl, N-aryl<sub>2</sub>, NH-aryl, NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, NOH, aryl, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, Si-alkyl<sub>3</sub>, CHO, SO<sub>3</sub>H, SO<sub>3</sub>-alkyl, SO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl, SO-alkyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, NHCO-alkyl, CONH<sub>2</sub>, CONH-alkyl, NHCOH, NHCOO-alkyl, CHCHCO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl, CHCHCO<sub>2</sub>H, PO-(aryl)<sub>2</sub>, PO(alkyl)<sub>2</sub>, PO<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, or PO(O-alkyl)<sub>2</sub>, where alkyl is a linear, branched, and/or cyclic aliphatic organic group having from 1 to 18 carbon atoms and aryl is a 5-, 6-, or 7-membered aromatic ring containing from 4 to 14 carbon atoms and from 0 to 3 heteroatoms and is optionally fused, and where the alkyl and/or the aryl group optionally bears up to six substituents selected independently from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, O-alkyl, OCO-alkyl, O-aryl, aryl, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, OH, NO<sub>2</sub>, NO, Si-alkyl<sub>3</sub>, CN, COOH, CHO, SO<sub>3</sub>H, NH<sub>2</sub>, NH-alkyl, N-alkyl<sub>2</sub>, PO-alkyl<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl, SO-alkyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, NHCO-alkyl, COO-alkyl, CONH<sub>2</sub>, CO-alkyl, NHCOH, NHCOO-alkyl, CO-aryl, COO-aryl, PO-aryl<sub>2</sub>, PO<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, PO(O-alkyl)<sub>2</sub>, and SO<sub>3</sub>-alkyl, where alkyl and aryl are as defined above,